



November 18, 2016

Dr. David Widawsky
Director, Chemistry, Economics and Sustainable Strategies Division
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20460-0001

Re: Input of the American Chemistry Council on the LCSA Nomenclature Provision

Dear Dr. Widawsky:

The Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act (LCSA), effective 2016, adds a nomenclature provision to Section 8, immediately preceding the new “Inventory Reset” requirement of the LCSA. This provision provides:

MULTIPLE NOMENCLATURE LISTINGS. If a manufacturer or processor demonstrates to the Administrator that a chemical substance appears multiple times [on the TSCA Inventory] under different CAS numbers, the Administrator may recognize the multiple listings as a single chemical substance.¹

We appreciate that EPA is working hard to develop the process for the Inventory Reset, and we strongly support EPA’s intention to undertake as simple, low burden, and efficient an Inventory Reset as possible. That said, in order to realize the substantial efficiency benefits of the nomenclature provision, we encourage EPA to consider how to give it effect as quickly as possible, and to consider how it might have a role in helping achieve the purposes of the reset.

The nomenclature provision acts as an important housekeeping step that can help organize the information on the existing Inventory. Where a nomenclature equivalency determination is made by the agency, it allows multiple listings to be linked together. This creates greater efficiency for software, databases, agencies and stakeholders that rely on the Inventory, and will save time and money for Inventory searches. In addition, when multiple listings are better linked, associated information about the listings, including health and safety information, becomes much easier and faster to locate and organize.

Prior to LCSA, the concept of equivalency for purposes of the inventory did not exist. Previous attempts between industry and EPA to reconcile duplication of listings was overshadowed by concern for the potential of unintended delisting of substances. This concern has now been fully

¹ The specific nomenclature provision added through LCSA only applies, on its face, to chemical substances already on the Inventory.



addressed by LCSA, because the nomenclature provision does not speak to listing and delisting of substances from the Inventory, but merely their classification, linkage, and organization on the Inventory. In that regard, the nomenclature provision is conceptually parallel to the Inventory Reset provision itself: both provisions add nothing and take nothing off the Inventory, but concern themselves with more transparent, accurate, and functional classification of substances listed on the Inventory.

The final statutory recognition of multiple listings on the Inventory as a single chemical substance is an action that must be taken by the agency itself, but third party experts could provide a valuable supporting role. EPA could certainly choose to have one or more qualified, third party chemical nomenclature expert bodies conduct an initial review and make recommendations to the agency regarding nomenclature demonstrations offered by manufacturers or processors. To achieve maximum benefit and efficiency for the agency, the agency could encourage and accept nomenclature equivalency notifications and supporting demonstrations before the final Inventory Reset Rule is published and throughout the 180 day notification period.

We appreciate EPA's consideration and look forward to further discussion. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-249-6130 or Karyn_Schmidt@americanchemistry.com.

Very truly yours,



Karyn M. Schmidt
Senior Director, Regulatory & Technical Affairs

cc: Wendy Cleland-Hamnett